IT'S FINALLY DRINKING OUTSIDE SEASON

PLUS, A SNEAK PEEK AT THE SOUTH STREET SPRING FESTIVAL. PAGE 18

metro

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Thursday, April 30, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

WHO'S NEXT?

NFL Draft. The Eagles will make some important decisions this weekend — first and foremost whether to trade up or stand pat.

PAGES 26-27

Anything could happen of course, but Marcus Mariota and Jameis Winston are expected to be the first two picks in the NFL Draft on Thursday night. / GETTY IMAGES

Read on for an excuse to skip work Monday

PAGE 02

YouTube star Hannah Hart talks success

PAGE 12

Seth Gabel says 'Salem' takes on the patriarchy

PAGE 14

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1 NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 'Matthew Hussey on how to "Get the Guy"'

2 'OMG: Sex toy urn creator Mark Sturkenboom chats with Metro'

3 'I spent seven hours in Matthew Hussey's "Get the Guy" seminar'

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Science: You should call off work on Monday

Above, summer visitors hang out at Spruce Street Harbor Park.
Below, Gia Gonzalez, 6, plays near the Logan Square fountain. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Go outside. If you knew how rare near-perfect weather is, would it change your perspective?

Forget gold, or platinum, or saffron.

The rarest commodity — in Philadelphia at least — might be a perfect day.

Metro asked a Pennsylvania state climatologist at Penn State University to count the number of near-perfect days residents in Philadelphia can expect.

Our definition: 60 to 75 degrees, mostly sunny, with a slight breeze. The scientists checked their database. Those conditions, at least as recorded at the Philadelphia International Airport, had to hold for any eight-hour period during daylight hours.

The scientists searched their database, going back 67 years to 1948. Residents of the city can expect just 8.7 days of near-perfect weather per year.

We're optimists. Call it nine.

"Nine days? That's so sad!" said Jen Heany, 20, a Drexel sophomore who was studying on Independence Mall on Wednesday. "When I come outside, I'm happy to see the sun. Some people take it for granted, but knowing it's nine days definitely changes my perspective."

One might dispute our definition of the perfect day — but we chose it for a simple reason: hot coffee makes as much sense as short sleeves in this type of weather. A pick-up game of baseball doesn't cause you to break a sweat. We forget our allergies.

It's the type of day that neither air conditioning nor home heat can beat.

Kyle Imhoff, the assistant state climatologist who conducted the analysis, said that one reason our perfect days are so rare is because a good wind from the west or northwest usually leads to cloud cover in Philly.

But it was an analysis he'd never performed. Most people, he said, ask about more extreme weather events.

For Kyle Hoffman, a carriage driver who works near Independence Mall, the key to a good day is all in the forecast. He makes his money when people decide to take advantage of good weather.

"If they call for rain and we have a nice day, people can't plan for that," Hoffman said. "But if they call for a nice day, people come out in droves."

"But knowing it's just nine days? It makes me want to take less coffee breaks and more time getting business."

DAN KELLEY
@MetroPhilly
dan.kelley@metro.us

Rare perfection

Between Jan. 1, 1948 and Dec. 31, 2014 there have been 583 near-perfect days.

- 119 in May,
- 171 in September
- 139 in October
- average of 2.8 each spring
- average of 4.8 per fall
- In 67 years, December has seen one day that meets our definition of near perfect weather, but
- near-perfect days are more common in November (14 over the last 67 years) than they are in July (5)

Source: Kyle Imhoff, assistant Pennsylvania state climatologist.

Bridgegate. Ex-official in NJ to plead guilty

A former ally of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is expected to plead guilty on Thursday to criminal charges related to the George Washington Bridge closure scandal, Bloomberg said on Wednesday.

David Wildstein, who was an executive with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which oversees bridge operations, ordered the shutdown in September 2013 along with another Christie aide, Bridget Kelly, partly as punishment for the mayor of Fort Lee, a legislative panel said in December. The closings caused major traffic snarls on the New Jersey-Manhattan crossing.

Christie fired Kelly in January and Wildstein resigned. REUTERS

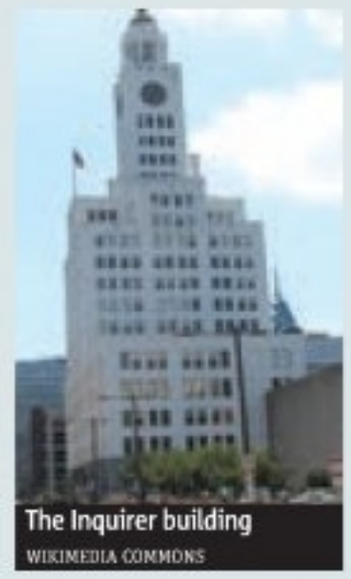
North Broad

Blatstein pitches hotel for Inquirer building

The former headquarters of The Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News on North Broad and Callowhill streets could soon be turned into a boutique hotel by developer Bart Blatstein.

Blatstein, who lost his bid for a casino license last year and dropped plans to open the Provence hotel and casino in that same building, has submitted an application through his Tower Investments company to turn the building into a what is described as a $36.5 million, 125-room hotel, featuring a meeting space and dining options, the Inquirer reported.

Pending approvals and a request for state funds, the project is scheduled to begin construction in August 2016. METRO



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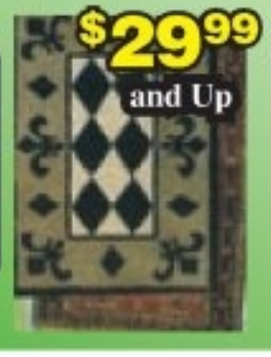

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Supervisor testifies in cop corruption case

Testimony. Sgt. Joseph McCloskey was portrayed as inattentive. On the stand Wednesday, he disputed that.

Witnesses say Thomas Liciardello, above, say he was the squad's de facto leader. His boss disputed that. / PPD

The sergeant who oversaw a Philadelphia narcotics unit whose members have been accused of robbing drug dealers, beating suspects and planting evidence said his officers have been falsely accused.

Whether a jury believes him might hinge on his ability to show he was paying attention to the officers.

Sgt. Joe McCloskey was the sole witness to take the stand Wednesday in a police corruption trial during which witnesses said officers on the squad dangled a suspect over a balcony, kidnapped an informant and stole hundreds of thousands of dollars.

McCloskey said all of it was bunk.

The guy dangled over the balcony?

"If that would have happened in my presence, we wouldn't be here today," McCloskey said. "I would have taken care of that seven years ago."

The accused drug dealer said $5,000 disappeared from his wallet after he was stopped by the cops?

"I don't know how you'd keep $5,000 in a wallet in any denomination," McCloskey said.

Former officer Jeffrey Walker, a former member of the squad who was caught in an FBI sting robbing a drug dealer and is now the government's star witness, said during his testimony earlier this month that McCloskey was an inattentive supervisor.

Walker said McCloskey let one of the accused officers, Thomas Liciardello, become the de facto leader of the narcotics unit.

Lawyers for the defense allowed McCloskey to dispute that characterization, allowing him to describe raids he went on, and evidence he seized.

Other witnesses, meanwhile, have described Walker as a lazy drunk who slept on the job and couldn't find a partner willing to work with him.

On cross examination, those characterizations of Walker came back to haunt McCloskey, who was forced to explain why he gave Walker satisfactory performance evaluations.

If he was so attentive, why did the performance evaluations conflict with what other officers seemed to know about Walker, to the point that Walker couldn't find a partner willing to work with him?

McCloskey said he didn't know why Walker couldn't find a partner.

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Getting their stretch on for free

If you noticed a circle of people exercising on the grass in Dilworth Park Wednesday, don't be alarmed. It was the free yoga class sponsored by the Center City District and Optimal Sport Health Club, seen above in downward dog with leg lift. / JENNIFER KERRIGAN

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Tanya Brown Dickerson is filing a lawsuit against the police department over her son's death after a traffic stop. / JENNIFER KERRIGAN

Lawsuit filed in Tate-Brown death

Philadelphia. With Freddie Gray protests planned in Philly, a suit against the police is filed.

Police officers were assigned to Dilworth Park on Wednesday during and after a press conference related to the Tate-Brown case.

While the family and lawyer of Brandon Tate-Brown was speaking to media Wednesday afternoon, a handful of protesters walked up with a bullhorn, shouting over the press conference, chanting, "Black lives matter!"

It was a small taste of what's expected on Thursday afternoon when a "Philly is Baltimore" protest is scheduled to take place at 4:30 p.m. outside City Hall.

Tanya Brown-Dickerson, mother of 26-year-old Tate-Brown, who according to police and prosecutors was killed after a traffic stop in December while running for a gun in his car, is now suing the Philadelphia Police Department over her son's death.

The suit seeks damages for Tate-Brown's death and also for the court to take jurisdiction over planned "use of force" reforms in the police department which were ordered by a federal Department of Justice review of the department.

That review found "policy, training and operational deficiencies" within the department.

Quoted

"What you see in Baltimore is no different than what we live through in Philly. Young people are sick of racial profiling and police brutality."

Asa Khalif, activist

These "'deficiencies' increase the risk of harm to members of the public interacting with police in use of force … situations," the lawsuit states. "Persons coming into contact with police in use of force situations are in imminent danger of harm."

During the press conference, multiple speakers drew parallels between Tate-Brown's death and that of Freddie Gray in Baltimore, as well as other highly publicized deaths of black men at the hands of police around the country.

"What's happening in Philadelphia, in particular with relation to Brandon, is part of a narrative … that says black life does not matter," said Rev. Mark Tyler of Mother Bethel AME Church. "If you kill someone African-American, you will get away with it."

Tyler observed that, like Baltimore, Philadelphia has prominent black leadership: from mayor and police chief to the majority of city council.

"It doesn't matter if you have a black mayor like in Philadelphia. The outcome is pretty much the same," he said. "We need a real cultural shift."

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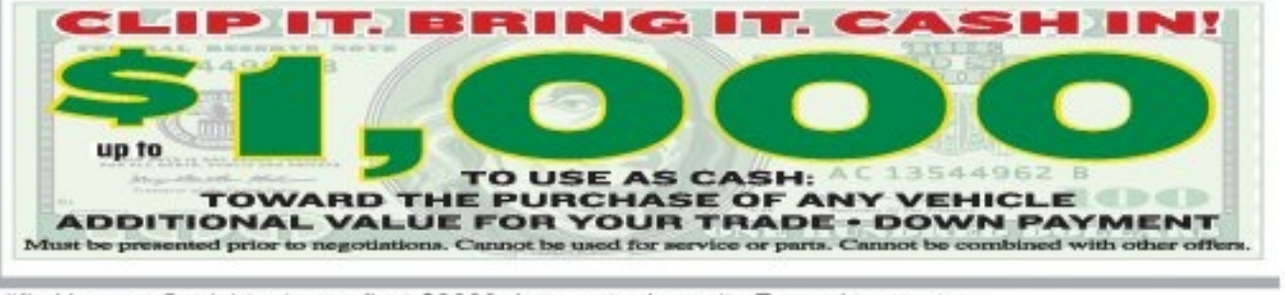
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Nepal earthquake

Fear of illness as hospitals fill up

In Kathmandu and other cities, hospitals have quickly overflowed with injured residents being treated out in the open or not at all.

Guna Raj, who works for a Kathmandu-based NGO specializing in providing sanitation, said there have been outbreaks of diarrhea in relief camps because of a shortage of toilets and clean water.

A hospital in Kathmandu
GETTY IMAGES

"In the next few days or weeks I am sure there will be an outbreak of epidemics," said Raj, who is involved in the relief effort.

Foreign Secretary Shanker Das Bairagi appealed for specialist doctors from overseas, as well as for search-and-rescue teams despite earlier suggestions from officials that Nepal did not need more such assistance.

"Our top priority is for relief and rescue teams. We need neurologists, orthopedic surgeons and trauma surgeons," Bairagi said. Experts from a Polish NGO that has an 87-strong team in Nepal have said the chances of finding people alive in the ruins five days after the quake were "next to zero.. REUTERS

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Students from Baltimore colleges and high schools march chanting, "Justice for Freddie Gray" on their way to City Hall. / GETTY IMAGES

Baltimore awaiting answers to man's death

Deaths of black men. Baltimore is the latest flashpoint in the reignited debate about race relations.

Reeling from its worst civil unrest in decades, Baltimore found a semblance of calm on Wednesday as residents await an official account of the death of a 25-year-old black man that set off rioting.

Beyond seeking answers to the fate of Freddie Gray, who died after suffering spinal injuries while in police custody, citizens highlighted the need to reform policing practices in the largely black city.

The violence in Baltimore prompted national figures — from the new U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch to Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton — to weigh in on Wednesday and vow to work on improving law enforcement and criminal justice in minority communities nationwide.

With police and National Guard troops patrolling Baltimore's streets, schools reopened and business resumed in the city of 620,000 two days after rioting, looting and arson that injured 20 officers and led to 250 arrests.

A weeklong curfew that began Tuesday helped police thwart violence. Police said 35 people have been arrested since then.

In the relative calm, residents in the most affected neighborhoods vented their frustration with police.

"The police have a gang mentality, they are above the law and that's the problem," said Timothy O'Donnell, a former gang member and part-time student from West Baltimore, where Gray was from, as he stood with other men outside a convenience store.

Police have said they will conclude their investigation by Friday, when the results will be turned over to state prosecutors and followed by an independent review. The U.S. Department of Justice is conducting a separate probe into possible civil rights violations. REUTERS

Arrested

35

A weeklong curfew that began Tuesday helped police thwart violence. Police said 35 people have been arrested since then.

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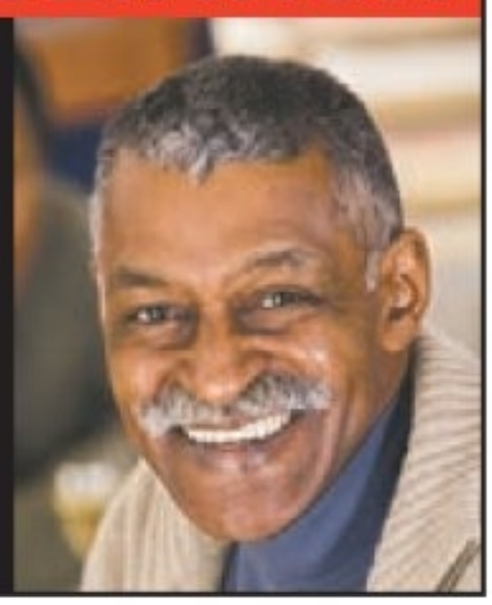


Five things you

1 FBI facilitated ransom payment from hostage Weinstein's family: WSJ

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2012 helped facilitate a ransom payment from the family of American hostage Warren Weinstein to al Qaeda in an unsuccessful attempt to get him released, the Wall Street Journal said on Wednesday.

Weinstein was accidentally killed in a U.S. drone strike in Pakistan in January, the White House announced last week. U.S. policy prohibits paying ransoms for hostages.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest, asked about the report on Wednesday, said he had not yet seen it and could not comment. "Our policy on this hasn't changed," he told reporters.

There was no immediate comment on the report from the FBI.

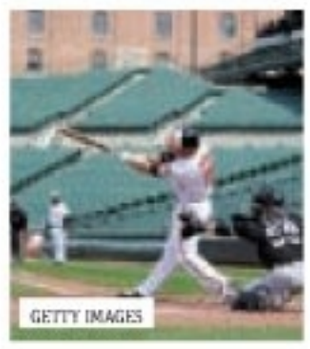
A person who worked closely with the Weinstein family told Reuters last week that the family paid a "small amount" in 2012 to people who claimed to be guarding the American aid worker, after receiving proof he was their captive.

The source said the FBI was aware of the payment. REUTERS

AMERICAN HOSTAGE WARREN WEINSTEIN IS SHOWN IN THIS IMAGE CAPTURED FROM AN UNDATED VIDEO COURTESY OF SITE INTELLIGENCE GROUP. / HANDOUT

2 Ballpark empty as Orioles beat White Sox

For the first time in Major League Baseball history, the Orioles and White Sox — because of protests in Baltimore — played a game closed to fans. But the O's did their best to make up for the lack of atmosphere, piling on Chicago starter Jeff Samardzija with a six-run first inning, including Chris Davis' three-run homer, that led to the 8-2 win. METRO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need to know

Lethal injection case exposes top court's death penalty divide

Tensions on the Supreme Court over America's use of the death penalty boiled over on Wednesday as the justices appeared split in a case challenging Oklahoma's lethal injection method as a breach of the Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

The nine-member court's five conservatives seemed likely to side with Oklahoma in the case brought by three death row inmates.

Meanwhile, its four liberals expressed doubt about the propriety of using the drug at the center of the dispute.

REUTERS

Microsoft to put Android apps on Windows phones

Microsoft will allow apps from rival Google's Android system onto its own Windows phones later this year to attract users to its unpopular mobile devices, the company's operating systems chief said on Wednesday.

The move marks a radical shift in strategy for the world's biggest software company, which still dominates the personal computer market, but has failed to get any real traction on tablets and phones, partly because of a lack of apps.

REUTERS

Alaska pizza thieves busted, tried to sell pies to cops

Thieves who stole 80 frozen pizzas from a warehouse in a remote Alaskan village were arrested after they attempted to sell the pies to the police department, state troopers said.

Police "received their strongest investigative lead" when the two thieves phoned the department in the village of Gambell, on an island in the Bering Sea, and attempted to sell the pizzas to on-duty officers, the Alaska State Troopers said in a dispatch. REUTERS

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'My Drunk Kitchen.' YouTube star Hannah Hart shares her journey

Hannah Hart worked as a proofreader in New York when one day she had a brilliant plan: She was going to upload a video of herself cooking drunk on YouTube and send it to her friend. Four years later, Hart has 1.8 million subscribers on her channel "My Drunk Kitchen": Hart talked to us about her unexpected success and how her life has changed.

How did you got started?
I was on GChat with a friend of mine because my sister had just gotten me a webcam when I moved from San Francisco to New York, and we were talking and she said how much she missed when I was drunk and pretending to cook.

Drunk cooking was something you were known for?
It wasn't anything of note. She just said, "I miss getting drunk and cooking with you."

Is it surreal to you that now this is your job?
It was super surreal and super fun. It's the best job in the world if you like to worry. You're your own boss; it's everybody's dream.

Who were your favorite guests on your show?
Jamie Oliver is always a lot of fun to shoot with. Lance Bass is so nice and so funny and Mary Louise Parker was a total delight.

What's your drink when cooking?
Hard to say — usually wine. I really enjoy cooking with a glass of wine. Wine gives you a way worse hangover than vodka, though.

What's been the coolest moment of your YouTube career?
I think the coolest moment of this career is that we run a volunteer day called Have a Hart Day. It started when I went on tour in 2013 and I went to food banks in 22 cities and we shot episodes with people who watched the show and we all volunteered together. Also, I published a book last year, "My Drunk Kitchen," and that book was on the best-seller list for six to eight weeks and that was really, really cool. ANDREA PARK, METRO

Question

Have you become a better cook?

I have! I can kind of eyeball-measure and see what's going to work and what's not going to work. Except when I made carrot cake using olive oil.

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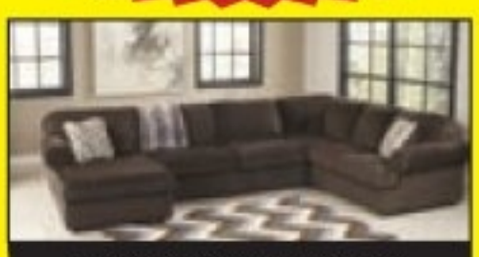

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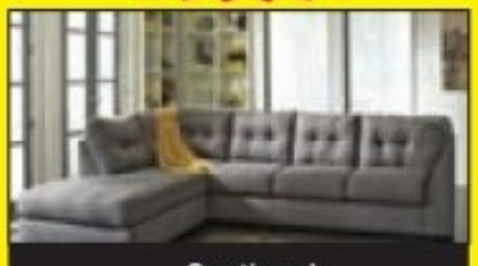

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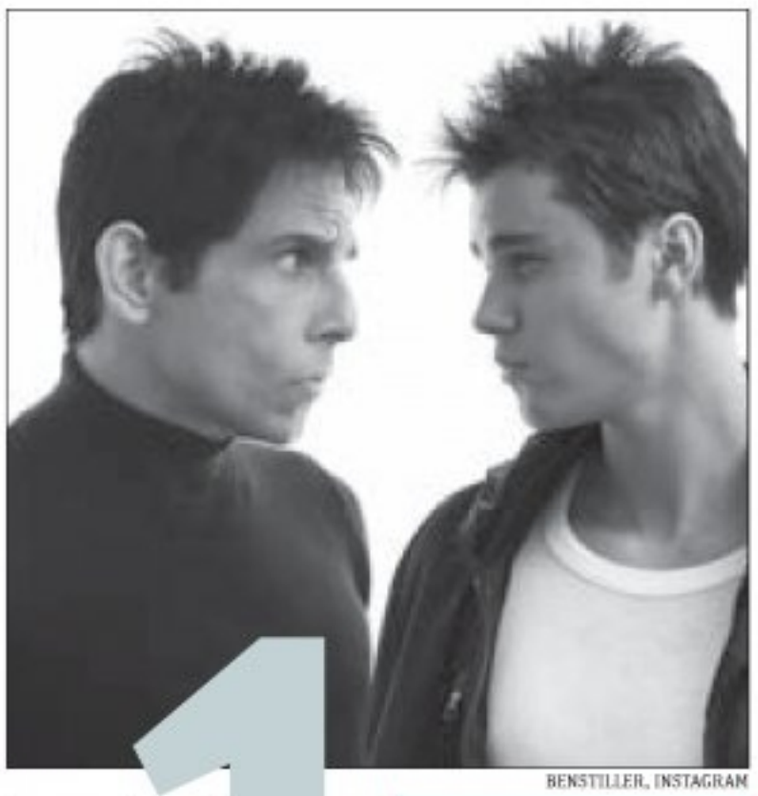
Justin Bieber's 'Zoolander 2' cameo confirmed



BENSTILLER, INSTAGRAM

I was really getting excited about the upcoming "Zoolander" sequel, but now? I don't know. Ben Stiller confirmed via an Instagram pose-off that Justin Bieber will be making a cameo in the film. And while no details were provided about his character, I can't help but notice a striking resemblance between the two. And, you know, Derek Zoolander did have an infant son at the end of the first film — one with some Blue Steel talents of his own. Bieber could totally pass for 15, right? Except that role is already taken by actual teenager Cyrus Arnold. So maybe Papa Zoolander has another, slightly older son he wasn't previously aware of?

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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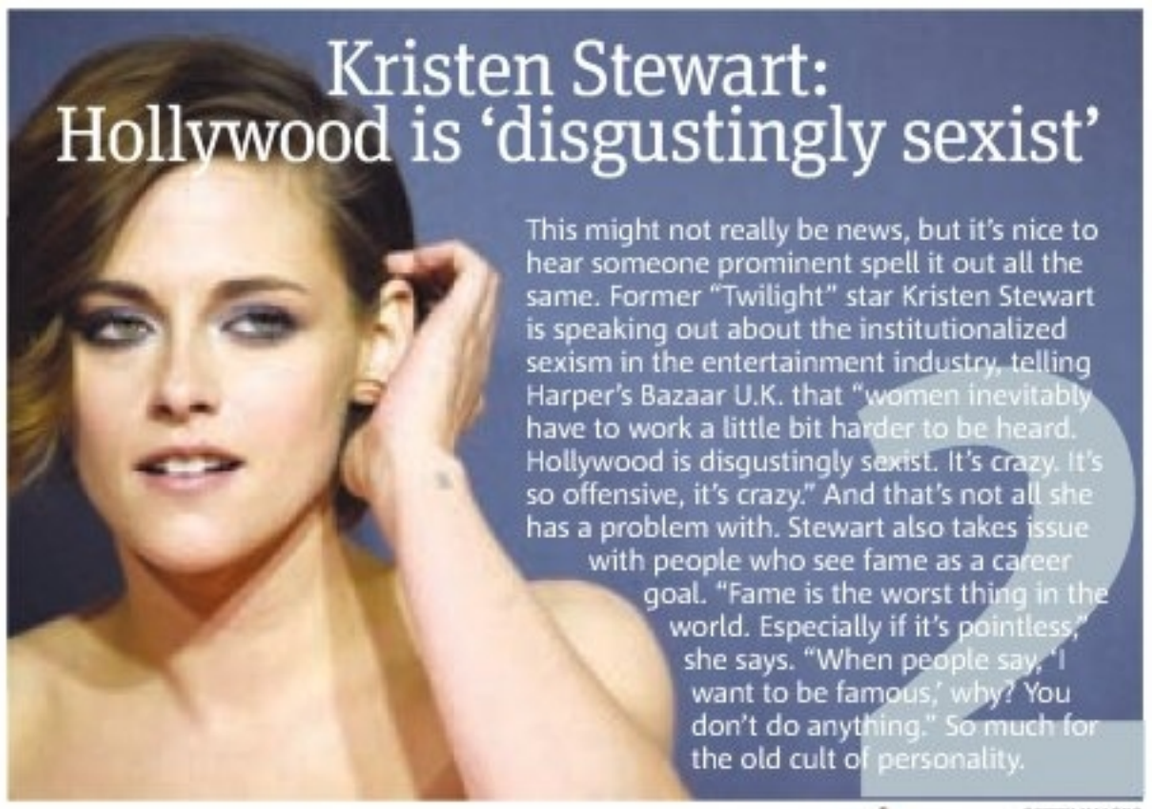
Kristen Stewart: Hollywood is 'disgustingly sexist'



This might not really be news, but it's nice to hear someone prominent spell it out all the same. Former "Twilight" star Kristen Stewart is speaking out about the institutionalized sexism in the entertainment industry, telling Harper's Bazaar U.K. that "women inevitably have to work a little bit harder to be heard. Hollywood is disgustingly sexist. It's crazy. It's so offensive, it's crazy." And that's not all she has a problem with. Stewart also takes issue with people who see fame as a career goal. "Fame is the worst thing in the world. Especially if it's pointless," she says. "When people say, 'I want to be famous,' why? You don't do anything." So much for the old cult of personality.

GETTY IMAGES

Nick Jonas overthinks his sex soundtracks

Nick Jonas only has one regret about when he lost his virginity. (Oh, by the way, the former promise ring-wearer is no longer a virgin, in case you were wondering.) "I think I would change the song," he tells Elle magazine in a revealing interview. "I don't want to say what song it was, but it was depressing. My iPod was on shuffle. It was a bad draw." Sure, but which is more of a mood killer, losing it to a terrible song, or stopping mid-coitus to click forward until you find something appropriately steamy?

GETTY IMAGES

Daily video

Amy Schumer tackles girls without makeup

Amy Schumer's new season of "Inside Amy Schumer" is on an amazing roll. Now, she follows up her rape-y "Friday Night Lights" spoof and the whip-smart "Last F—able Day" sketch with this One Direction-lampooning music video questioning claims by rappers and pop stars that girls look better without makeup. The boys may not come off very well in the video, but the song is catchy as hell. "These are just metaphors, girl, but they are about your face."

COMEDY CENTRAL, YOUTUBE

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Lena Dunham is covering her bases, Victoria Beckham has started a hashtag for her husband's birthday and Dwayne Johnson is full of good advice.

@lenadunham: Email to my doctor: "do you think I have any diseases off the top of your head?"

@victoriabeckham: What to wear in Marakesh? Vintage Yves Saint Laurent #DB40

@TheRock: Be the hardest (and smartest) worker in the room. #AndHaveBigBalls

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Make some dark magic

Interview. Seth Gabel says his witch hunting character on "Salem" will be just as tortured as he was last season.

Watch "Salem" Sundays at 10 p.m. on WGN America. / WGN AMERICA

"Salem" is the sort of show where nothing is too weird or warped to happen. Witches store animals in people's bodies, perform dark rites of magic and, of course, get entangled in love affairs, in a way that melds "True Blood" and "American Horror Story" to creepy, suspenseful effect. While many of the names may be familiar to anyone who's read about the Salem witch trials, the characters are all a bit different from their historical namesakes, particularly in the case of Cotton Mather, who in the show's universe, is a hard-drinking, prostitute-loving tormented reverend striving to do what's right. We talked to Seth Gabel, who plays him, about what's to come, and in true "Salem" fashion, a bat briefly interrupted our interview. Gabel swears it's just coincidence, but does admit, "I wish my character would get some magic."

SETH GABEL
GETTY IMAGES

Cotton spent much of the first season suffering from the influence of his father. Now that he's gone, is Cotton freer?
Well, he still feels it. He feels such guilt over having killed his own father, and committing patricide. I thought that going in he would have a feeling of freedom and of actually being able to live his life unbound by any expectations of his father. But he's actually found quite the opposite, that more than ever he has his father's voice in his head berating him.

So he can't escape his father's voice?
Right, and as the season progresses, you start to get a sense that perhaps it's not just in his head; perhaps the presence of his father is still lurking.

Everyone on the show commits some morally suspect acts, and it seems like John Alden (Shane West) has gone pretty far this season. Can Cotton pull him back?
I certainly hope so. It definitely seems like Alden has sold his soul to another kind of devil. ... The whole question of the show is once you've sold your soul, literally or metaphorically, can you be redeemed? If you've done something wrong, and have gone against who you really are, can you get yourself back? And can you do it alone, or does it take other people to believe in you? That remains to be seen.

Bonus question

Escaping the patriarchy

Everyone commits some dark acts. Are we meant to know who to root for?
What you discover over the course of the show is that every character is sympathetic, but we're all kind of victims of circumstance and victims of society and victims of what was established in the previous generations by our ancestors. ... They're all victims of whatever past system existed before them, and, for the women especially, the only way to have any power in Puritan society is to use magic and to go against what's accepted as being OK, and worship a different system. And that's not necessarily wrong. It's kind of their only choice, because otherwise they're slaves to this patriarchal society.

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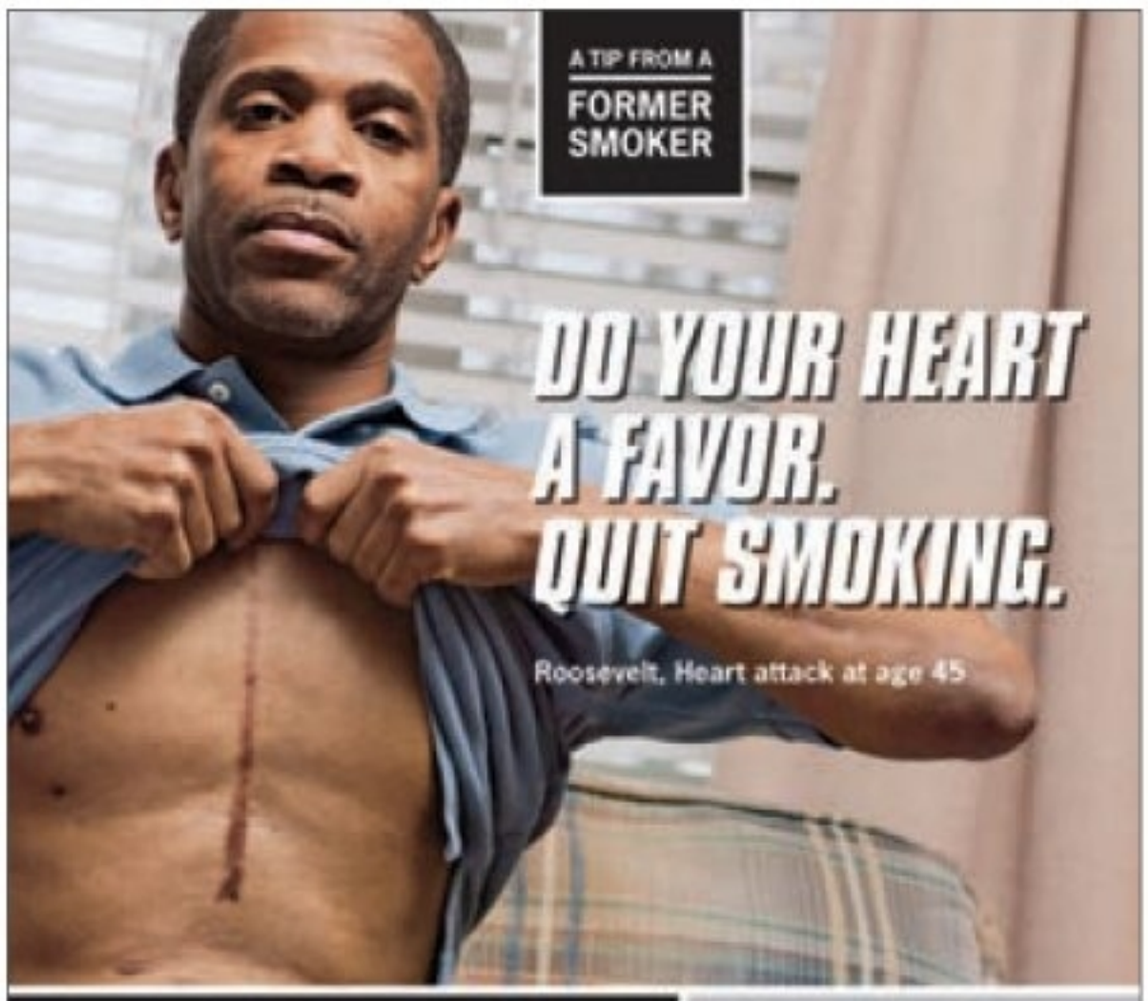

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TV watch list

DRAMA

'Grey's Anatomy'

After last week's big surprise death of SPOILER, this week everyone has to adjust to the absence of that particular character. Also, Bailey and Ben find themselves at odds about their future.

8 P.M., ABC

Everyone is reeling on "Grey's" following the death of, well, you know who. / ABC

DRAMA

'Reign'

We love every character name on this show. Catherine gets jealous of Narcisse getting close with someone else, Conde almost gets captured by Francis, and Leith and Greer have relationship troubles. **9 P.M., CW**

TALK SHOWS

'Late Show with David Letterman'

We thought we misread this, but Dave's musical guest appears to have time traveled here all the way from 1997: Hootie and the Blowfish are in the house. Also, Michelle Obama!

11:35 P.M., CBS

COMEDY

'Mom'

Everyone is fighting in this episode, as Roscoe says he wants to live with his dad, and Christy thinks it's all Bonnie's fault. This show is a very dark comedy.

SEASON FINALE, 9 P.M., CBS

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I spent the weekend on panels at Wizard World Las Vegas, and more than a little of the time was taken up with talking about whether or not it's important to have a female director for the upcoming "Wonder Woman" and "Captain Marvel" movies. Shouldn't it just be the best person for the job?

There are a lot of arguments in which I come down firmly on one side. This time I have a strong opinion, but I understand both points of view. Yes, I think the films should be directed by women, and not just because I think there should be more women directing superhero films. Of course, there are plenty of men (ahem, Joss Whedon) who could do a fantastic job. Please keep that in mind as I continue.

Every writer and director should be able to get into the minds of all of their characters. However, there are other reasons that, in these particular cases, a woman would be a better choice.

First, these two properties mean a great deal to female fans. Wonder Woman and Captain Marvel are fictional role models. This is a historic moment in superhero cinema. Female fans are finally getting powerful women in costume on the screen in a leading role. Straight white male directors and studios largely run by them have given us some great female superheroes, but they're still a small part of a large group of men. Marketing puts them in the background, too. Seen many Black Widow toys? Me neither.

There is also something about intimately understanding the modern female experience. A guy on my panel talked about walking with his girlfriend, who was dressed in a sexy costume at a con. He realized, after watching the way she was treated by most men, that he had no idea about the micro-aggressions we experience every day. He couldn't know them any more than I, as a white woman, can know the true experience of what a black or Hispanic or Asian woman goes through every day.

Ultimately, I want someone to direct these films with the perspective of a woman. Yes, a man can do the job, but in the current culture of fandom, it's about time we opened the door a little wider.

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GO TO A WOMAN

Quoted

"Ultimately, I want someone to direct these films with the perspective of a woman. Yes, a man can do the job, but in the current culture of fandom, it's about time we opened the door a little wider."

The Wonder Woman movie (with Gal Gadot) recently lost one female director ("Breaking Bad" helmer Michelle MacLaren), but gained another ("Monster"'s Patty Jenkins). / WARNER BROS. PICTURES

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Parc
227 S. 18th St.
Stephen Starr's Rittenhouse restaurant, styled after a Parisian bistro, is set on the corner so it has two sidewalks lined with tables, but of course you'll want to snag a spot alongside the Square. Those seats are conveniently set to face the action — no need to pretend you're not watching the crowds go by while sipping on a Kir Royale.

Games:

Independence Beer Garden
Sixth and Market streets
Philly's love affair with beer gardens is nowhere more apparent than at Michael Schulson's IBG in Old City, across from the Liberty Bell. There are 40 taps, long picnic tables, cozy seating areas, a 10-foot TV and, for playtime, pingpong, giant Jenga and shuffle board. It opened for the season yesterday.

Live music:

Morgan's Pier
221 N. Columbus Blvd.
Morgan's Pier has seats for 500 people in its enormous outdoor space right on the Delaware River, but doesn't mean you'll get one: This place gets packed. Fortunately it's just as fun to grab a beer from the bar and wander. After dark, the lively crowd skews young and loud. It opens for the season tonight.

From people-watching to pingpong, we have an outdoor bar with your name on it. RACHEL VIGODA

Above it all:

Stratus
433 Chestnut St.
Go swank at the stylish Stratus Rooftop Lounge on top of the Hotel Monaco. The bar is rolling out a new cocktail menu for spring, with highlights like Dates Gone Wild, an updated take on a Old Fashioned, crafted with Wild Turkey Rye. The annual see-and-be-seen Spring Awakening party is tonight.

Independence Beer Garden M. FISHETTI FOR VISIT PHILADELPHIA

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Eat your way along South Street

Here's what not to miss at the annual Spring Festival.

RACHEL VIGODA
@rachelatmetro
rachel.vigoda@metro.us

The free South Street Spring Festival gets bigger every year. Along with the 40 bands spread among 10 stages, more than 100 retailers setting up stands, local artists plying their wares and a Kid Zone with arts and crafts and entertainers, 30 of the neighborhood's restaurants will be offering free samples and food to buy.

Adding to the celebratory air, Brauhaus Schmitz will be hosting its annual Maifest, with German beer and food, music and dancers, and Atomic City Comics is holding a Free Comic Book Day.

To help you navigate the festivities and plan your route, we got a sneak peek of what the restaurants will be serving up. Here's what we're looking forward to.

The Twisted Tail

You can't go wrong with barbecue. The Twisted Tail is grilling up cheeseburgers, corn on the cob and asparagus.

Spreadable bacon

You might not have even known bacon-infused jam was missing from your life. Spoiler alert: It absolutely was. Stop by The Bacon Jams table to taste the All Original, Red Chile & Garlic and Black Pepper varieties.

The Sweet Life Bake Shop

It's warm, and you'll be wandering outdoors, so skip the heavy sweets and try a strawberry banana pudding from new eatery The Sweet Life.

Bistro Romano

This Italian spot is tempting us with beef shortribs, mac 'n' cheese, housemade Yukon gold potato chips with Gorgonzola cheese sauce and, for dessert, cannolis.

Brauhaus Schmitz

Get into the spirit of Maifest with the restaurant's sausage or roast pork platters with potato salad and sauerkraut.

Come hungry to the South Street Spring Festival — there will be plenty to eat. SOUTH STREET HEADHOUSE DISTRICT

Fat Tuesday

Cool down with a daiquiri from Fat Tuesday — that is, if you can decide which of the many varieties to order.

Tuk Tuk Real and Circles

Chef Alex Boonphaya is dishing out options from both his Mexican-Thai fusion and his Thai restaurants, with a menu including tacos, fried plantains, pad thai, crab Rangoon and chicken satay.

The Cow and the Curd

One of Philly's favorite food trucks will be on hand with the best cheese curds you'll ever have outside the Midwest.

South Street Spring Festival

Saturday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
South Street, between Front and Eighth streets
www.southstreet.com

MoJo's Pop Co.

Snack on handmade toffee popcorn from MoJo's, which just opened a brick and mortar in South Philly.

A big day for fests

Walking distance away, the Rittenhouse neighborhood is hosting its own annual seasonal soiree, the Rittenhouse Row Spring Festival. The fest draws more than 50,000 to the stretch of Walnut Street from Broad to 19th, with food, music, retail and even a fashion show. It runs from noon to 5 p.m.

Supper and Scratch Biscuits

Chef Mitch Prensky of Supper (on South Street) is giving a preview of his upcoming second spot, Scratch Biscuits (on 13th and Chestnut). Stop by at the festival for the fried chicken biscuit.

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SEPTA

Listings

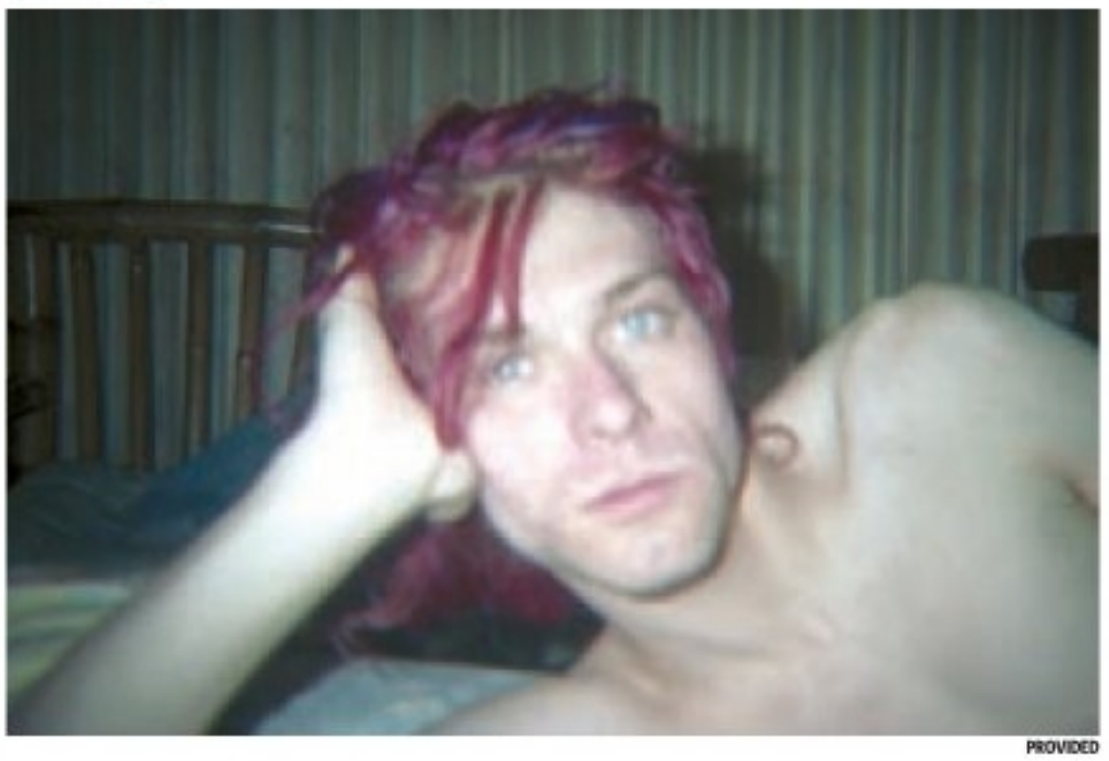
MUSIC

Bombadil

Saturday, 8 p.m.
World Cafe Live, 3025 Walnut St.; $10, 215-222-1400; www.worldcafelive.com
This North Carolina folk band may be named for a minor character in the "Lord of the Rings," but if they indulge any fantasy it's closer to troubadours at a Depression-era country fair than travelers in Tolkein's Middle-earth. Their stomping, upbeat music often belies dark, lyrical content about freaks and misfits. Fans of Neutral Milk Hotel and the Decemberists will dig them.

TODD COOPER

MOVIES


PROVIDED

'Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck'

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Roxy Theater, 2035 Sansom St.; $9-$10, 267-239-2941; www.filmadelphia.org
This is a new, authorized documentary on the life of Kurt Cobain, legendary frontman of Nirvana, still the poster boy for alternative rock 21 years after his suicide. It combines rare home movies and examples of Cobain's notebooks and visual art with animated sequences and personal interviews to create an intimate, stylized portrait.

MUSIC

Osvaldo Romberg: Dirty Geometry

Through May 30
Pentimenti Gallery
145 N. 2nd St.
Free, 215-625-9990
www.pentimenti.com
This is the first solo show in Philadelphia for Argentine artist Osvaldo Romberg, who contributes paintings, sculpture and works on paper. "Dirty" here isn't a sexual innuendo but rather refers to Romberg's ambition to, in his words, "invent a geometry that would be free from theory." This involves intentional imperfections, personalizing a rarified mathematical universe.

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DANCE

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Thursday through Sunday
Adrienne Theater
2030 Sansom St.
$20, 800-838-3006
www.brownpapertickets.com
The Cabaret Administration presents what they call a "gothic romance burlesque ballet," inspired by the revolutionary ideals and literary works of the notorious Shelleys, poet Percy and novelist Mary. Mary, daughter of the proto-feminist Mary Wollstonecraft, followed in her mother's radical footsteps; her husband, Percy, was a fierce atheist from his teen years, and a believer in radical democracy.

Tapping Through the Decades II

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Kimmel Center
300 S. Broad St.
$37-$43, 215-893-1999
www.kimmelcenter.org
The local tap group Footwerx, dedicated, as they write on their website, to "bringing tapping back one sole at a time," presents this show, another round of tap in their "hoofing" style. Featuring special guest Cody Wise, they'll take you on a musical tour of the decades, demonstrating the relevance of tap from vaudeville to the present.

TALKS

Gross Anatomy

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Ruba Club Studios
416 Green St.
$7-$10, 21+, 215-448-1346
philasciencefestival.ticketleap.com
Regardless of how much time you spend on the Internet, you still have a body. Don't worry — science is working on that. But in the meantime, you might enjoy these slightly gross talks, part of the Philadelphia Science Festival, by bona fide PhDs. Gary Beauchamp's is entitled "Urine: a Liquid Fingerprint?"; Pamela Dalton will discuss "Signals of Stress Sweat"; Katharine Prigge will enlighten you on what "Your Earwax Knows."

COMEDY

You're the Expert

Thursday, 8 p.m.
Franklin Institute
222 N. 20th St.
$15-$20, 215-448-1346
philasciencefestival.ticketleap.com
In a format similar to the classic TV panel show "What's My Line?" and its '90s Nickelodeon reboot, "Figure It Out," this show, also a podcast and now a public radio series, features three comedians — in this case, Wyatt Cenac, Zhubin Parang and Joe Firestone — attempting, with great amusement, to guess the area of expertise of a local scientist. It's part of the Philadelphia Science Festival.

THEATER

'Noises Off'

Thursday through May 30
Curio Theatre
4740 Baltimore Ave.
$15-$25, 215-525-1350
www.curiotheatre.org
Curio Theatre presents this 1982 farce by English playwright Michael Frayn, which takes us behind the scenes of a play called "Nothing On," where the drama backstage is much more engaging than the drama onstage. Praised for its sheer hilarity, "Noises Off" has seen multiple revivals since its debut.

Brownsville Song (B-Side for Tray)

Friday through May 31
Suzanne Roberts Theatre
480 S. Broad St.
$52, 215-985-0420
www.philadelphiatheatrecompany.org
Kimber Lee's play looks in on the life of Tray, a Brooklyn kid who's trying to figure himself out amidst the demands of others — he's got all the people in his life asking for something different, but who is he to himself? And what if he has less time than he thinks to sort it out?

MUSIC

Relache

Sunday, 3 p.m.
Penn Museum
3260 South St.
$10-$15, 215-898-4000
www.penn.museum
This is the last of new music ensemble Relache's trio of concerts as artists-in-residence at the Penn Museum. This time they'll be accompanying the 1912 silent film "The Mystery of the Rocks of Kador" with an original score by French composer/violinist Regis Huby. They'll also perform two pieces by Philadelphia composer Paul A. Epstein.

ART

Framing Fraktur

Through June 14
Free Library of Philadelphia
1901 Vine St.
Free, 215-686-5322
www.freelibrary.org
This show is made up of two exhibits celebrating the famous Pennsylvania German style of manuscript art. "Quill and Brush" features historical examples of fraktur alongside ephemera related to the culture from which it emerged in the 1680s, while "Word and Image" shows the work of contemporary artists inspired by fraktur.

MATTHEW DINARO

INSIGHT GUIDES TRAVEL WEEKLY

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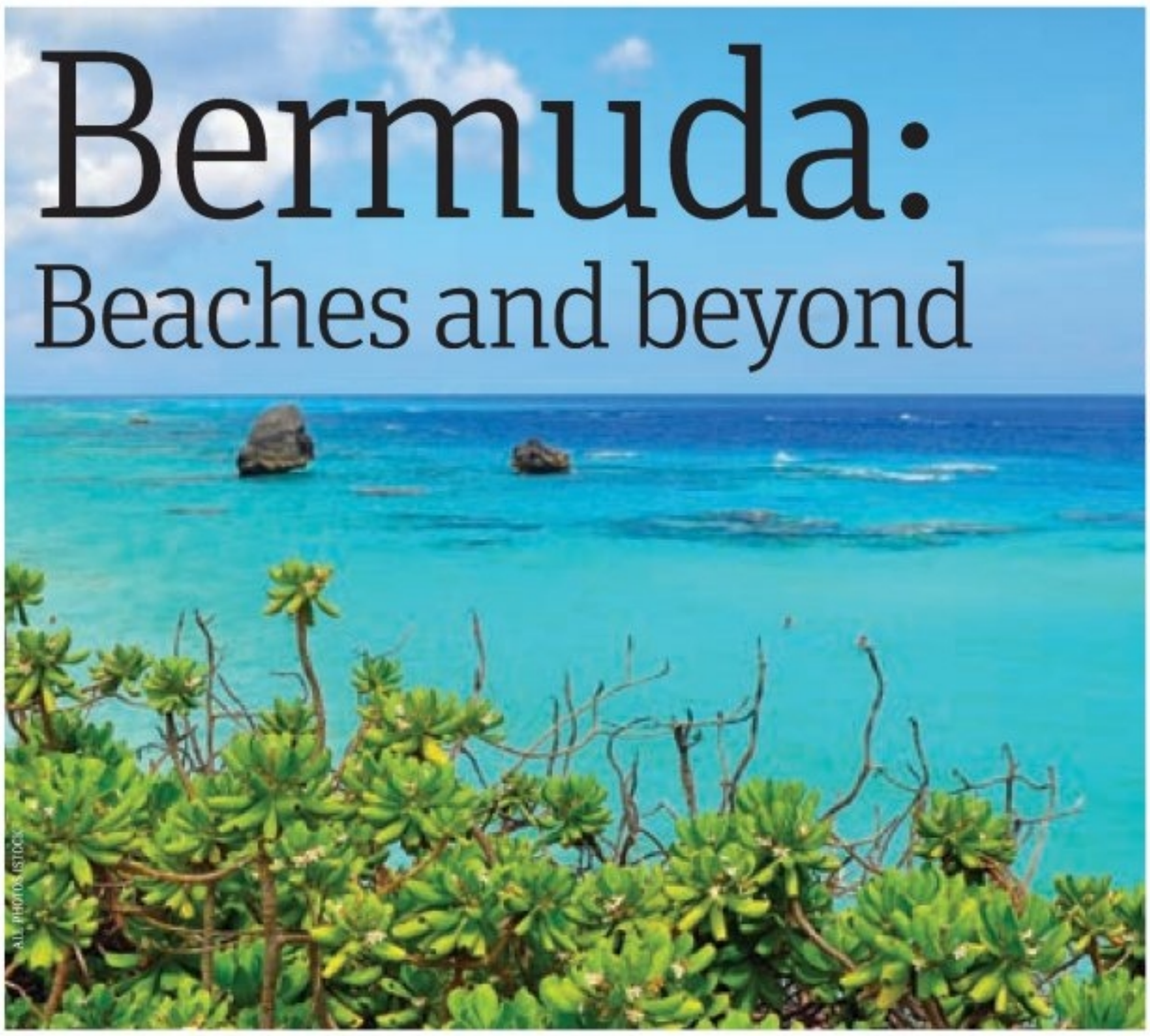
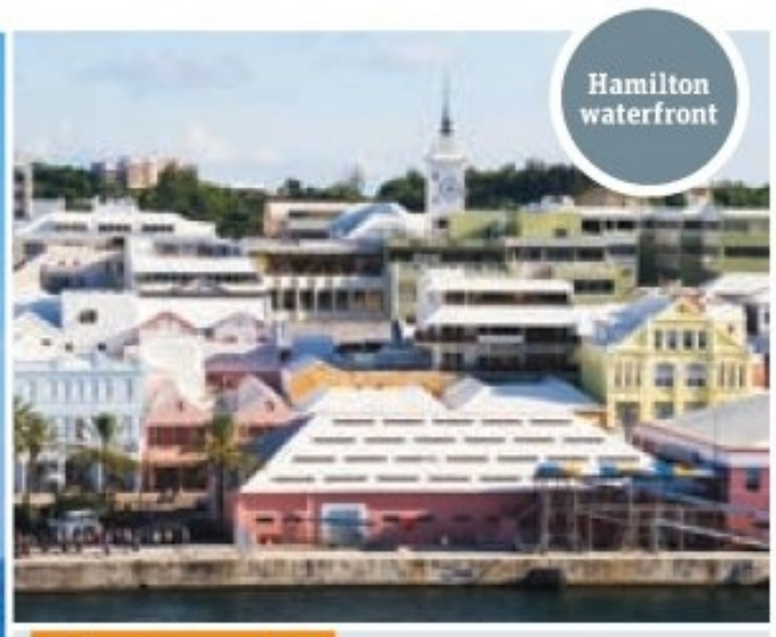
Bermuda:
Beaches and beyond



ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK



Hamilton waterfront

Things to remember

It is not summer here year-round

While it can be appealing to escape to a warm beach while it is still chilly back home, it's important to check the weather charts if it's hot days on the sand you're seeking.

Summer is a very popular time to visit

The most popular time to cruise here is summer — June through August — when the weather is warm and children are out of school, but that can mean that there are ships lined up in port when you arrive.

Storms can be intense

The peak hurricane season here is August through October, with October taking the brunt of the intense weather. While this can just mean rain or a thunderstorm, instead of an actual hurricane, it's better to avoid those months if you can.

Bermuda is known for its sandy beaches and crystal clear waters, but these are not the only attractions to be found on this North Atlantic island.

Bermuda is not technically part of the Caribbean. It's off the East Coast of the United States, nearest to North Carolina, in the Atlantic Ocean. But, when it comes to cruising, it gets lumped in with those more Southern islands all the time — which makes sense: For cruisers, Bermuda offers similar pleasures to vacationers—clear blue water, gorgeous beaches and coconut palms.

The Bermuda sand is a stunning shade of pale pink. It's tempting to take a cab or an excursion to the shore, and spend the whole day lying on a blanket or on a lounge chair in the sun. But, just underneath the surface of the cool, blue water are coral reefs filled with colorful fish and the remains of vessels that may have gotten caught in the so-called Bermuda Triangle or in the area's notoriously powerful storms. The barnacle-covered wrecks are gorgeous natural aquariums, making this a paradise for snorkelers and divers.

The island remains a British Overseas Territory and the British influence here is powerful — Union Jacks, colonial-style buildings, and business-men in suit jackets with shorts and knee-high socks. Here, they like their pubs, their afternoon tea and most certainly their cricket. Sailing and fishing are popular ways to spend an afternoon, as much for locals as for visitors. And you'll find as many British brands in the shops as American ones.

> **Dive below the water's surface to swim with schools of colorful fish and explore shipwrecks.**

The food and drinks also have a British flavor: The iconic drink of the island, the Dark 'N Stormy, is a sweet mix of ginger beer and Goslings dark rum. The local fish is served in fish and chips, codfish cakes, tomato-based fish chowder, and codfish "brunch" with bananas and potatoes. Hoppin' john, a side dish made with black eyed peas, is also popular. **INSIGHT GUIDES | SHERRI EISENBERG**

Tropical fish in an underwater wreck

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Glitz and glamour in Atlantic City

Trendy hotels, vibrant nightlife, luxury shopping and indulgent spas – the new, hip Atlantic City is targeting Millennials with upscale attractions and entertainment.

Atlantic City's glitter and glam are expanding beyond casinos. The famous gaming spots are still high-rolling, but there's a new emphasis on non-gambling diversions.

For shopping, it's still the Boardwalk for salt water taffy, but elsewhere, it's elite shopping. At The Pier Shops at Caesars, find Gucci and Burberry in a glass pavilion overlooking the ocean. In town, Tanger Outlets features over 80 name brand outlets. Find Edwin Pearl and Godiva at The Quarter at Tropicana.

Pamper yourself with a spa treatment. The Immersion spa at Borgata has floor-to-ceiling water views. Harrah's and Seaview both have Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spas, while Qua Baths and Spa at Caesars promises rejuvenation through the healing power of water.

While the casino-hotels have great restaurants, don't miss the fabulous local places. Girasole Ristorante serves Mediterranean specialties under the stars in their enclosed garden patio (www.girasoleac.com); Dock's Oyster House, open since 1897, has fine seafood and an award-winning wine list (www.docksoysterhouse.com); and Kelsey's has the only soul food menu in Atlantic City with live jazz on weekends (www.kelseysac.com).

After strolling and shopping, head to one of Atlantic City's spas for a pampering treatment.

For nightlife, dance to DJs or live music at dozens of lounges and nightclubs, sip signature cocktails at the sophisticated Blue Martini or go retro under the Boogie Nights disco ball. Entertainment headliners this summer include Melissa Etheridge, George Lopez and Tony Bennett with Lady Gaga.

Where to stay? The Courtyard by Marriott (non-casino) and The Golden Nugget both recently finished multi-million dollar renovations. The Claridge on the Boardwalk is a gem. Built in 1927 and restored to its former glory, it once welcomed the likes of Princess Grace, Frank Sinatra and Al Capone.

INSIGHT GUIDES | FRAN SEVERN

For more information, visit www.atlanticcitynj.com.

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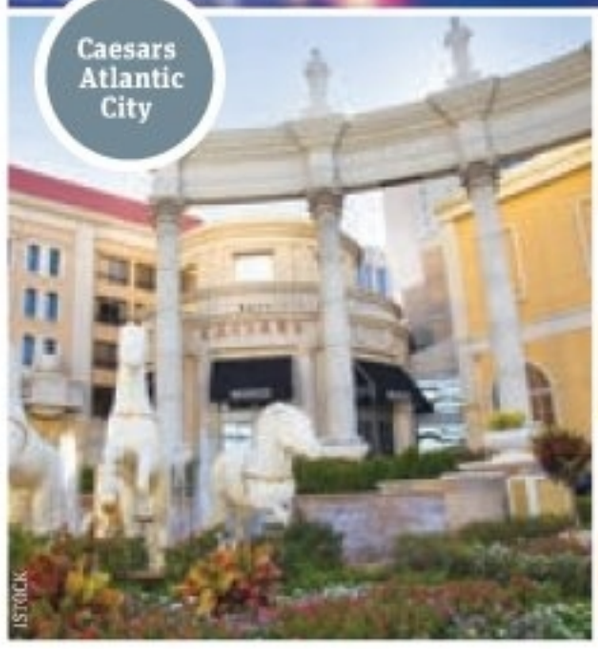
Caesars Atlantic City
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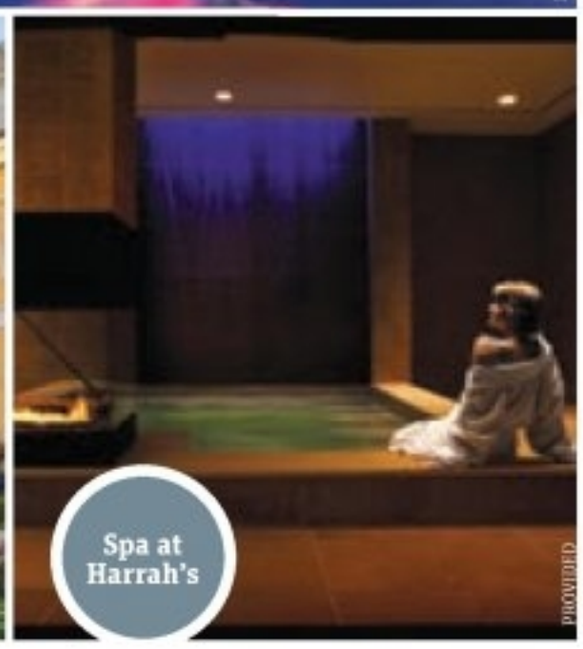
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Vintage jewelry designed and displayed in Virginia

A new museum in Virginia gives a unique view of jewelry-making in the Gilded Age and lets you design your own treasure.

The Museum of American Jewelry Design and Manufacturing in Harrisonburg, Virginia gives visitors a visual and sensory experience of jewelry making in the late 1800s.

The collection of over 7,000 dies, rollers and molds belong to jeweler Hugo Kohl. He started the collection after picking up a box of old pieces that fell from a truck on its way to a landfill and was enchanted and fascinated by the designs and history they represented.

The museum overlooks Kohl's workshop, where contemporary and reproduction pieces are made. The displays include a CAD system to design "vintage" rings, bracelets and pendants, which Kohl and his artisans then turn into actual pieces. In the works is a "made-by-me" station where visitors can make their own jewelry using the antique machines.

INSIGHT GUIDES | FRAN SEVERN

Hugo Kohl

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Horoscope

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Improving your financial position should be a priority. Formulate a realistic budget, call in debts and pay off high-interest loans.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
Don't be too free with your information. You will end up in a vulnerable position if your confidante has trouble keeping secrets.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
You are in charge of your destiny. It's up to you to make changes if you are dissatisfied with your position. Partnerships will suffer if you don't shake things up.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
Keep a close watch on your cash. Overspending will be your downfall. You won't have any luck sticking to a schedule, so lighten up.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Don't give in to peer pressure. Deception is imminent. Follow your heart and be firm if someone tries to take advantage of you.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Bide your time and do whatever it takes to get into fighting trim. A spontaneous trip to an out-of-the-way location will give you inspiration.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Let your creativity flow. Put your workplace worries on the back burner and surround yourself with people who share your passion.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Be prepared to experience a power struggle. You are best off keeping your opinions under wraps for now.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You will experience a revelation regarding a project. Continue to fine-tune your plan until you feel that you are ready to make a presentation. Money is coming.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Some people will judge you harshly if your motives aren't clearly understood. You will help a worthy cause if you offer your time.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
Don't try to get away with something that you know is wrong. Exaggerating or embellishing your credentials will lead to disaster.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
This is a great time to further your education or learn on the job. A position you are eyeing is attainable if you update your resume.

EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	7	2						
		8			6	7	5	
	4	3			8	1		2
				5				8
7			8		3			4
8				9				
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	1	7	9			6		
						8	3	

7			9		2		4	1
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1			4		8	2		
2		5					6	
3								5
	8					1		2
		4	7		9			8
8		1						
6	2		8		1			3

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters to the editor

Don't misquote mayor

Re: 'Don't give Baltimore the right to loot' (Metro, April 29) I'm curious what right-wing spin machine had letter writer Sal Giarratani chime in on the comments of Baltimore's mayor. His cherry-picked quote is highly deceptive, putting an ellipsis before her remarks that "We also gave those who wished to destroy a space to do that." The full quote shows that is not what she meant: "It's a very delicate balancing act. Because while we try to make sure that [the protesters] were protected from the cars and the other things that were going on, we also gave those who wished to destroy space to do that as well." CHARLES HALL

Re: 'Don't give Baltimore the right to loot' (Metro, April 29) Like letter writer Sal Giarratani, I'm equally appalled at how weeks of nonviolent protests in Baltimore have given way to a single day of rioting. I trust Mr Giarratani is equally outraged at the equally destructive riot that broke out three weeks ago in Lexington, Kentucky after the NCAA basketball tournament, and the one there last spring after the national championships, and the two in 2012 after the national finals. Of course those rioters were mostly white and prompted by basketball games, not mostly black and prompted by a murder of an unarmed man by the police, so they didn't make the national news. JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA EMAIL

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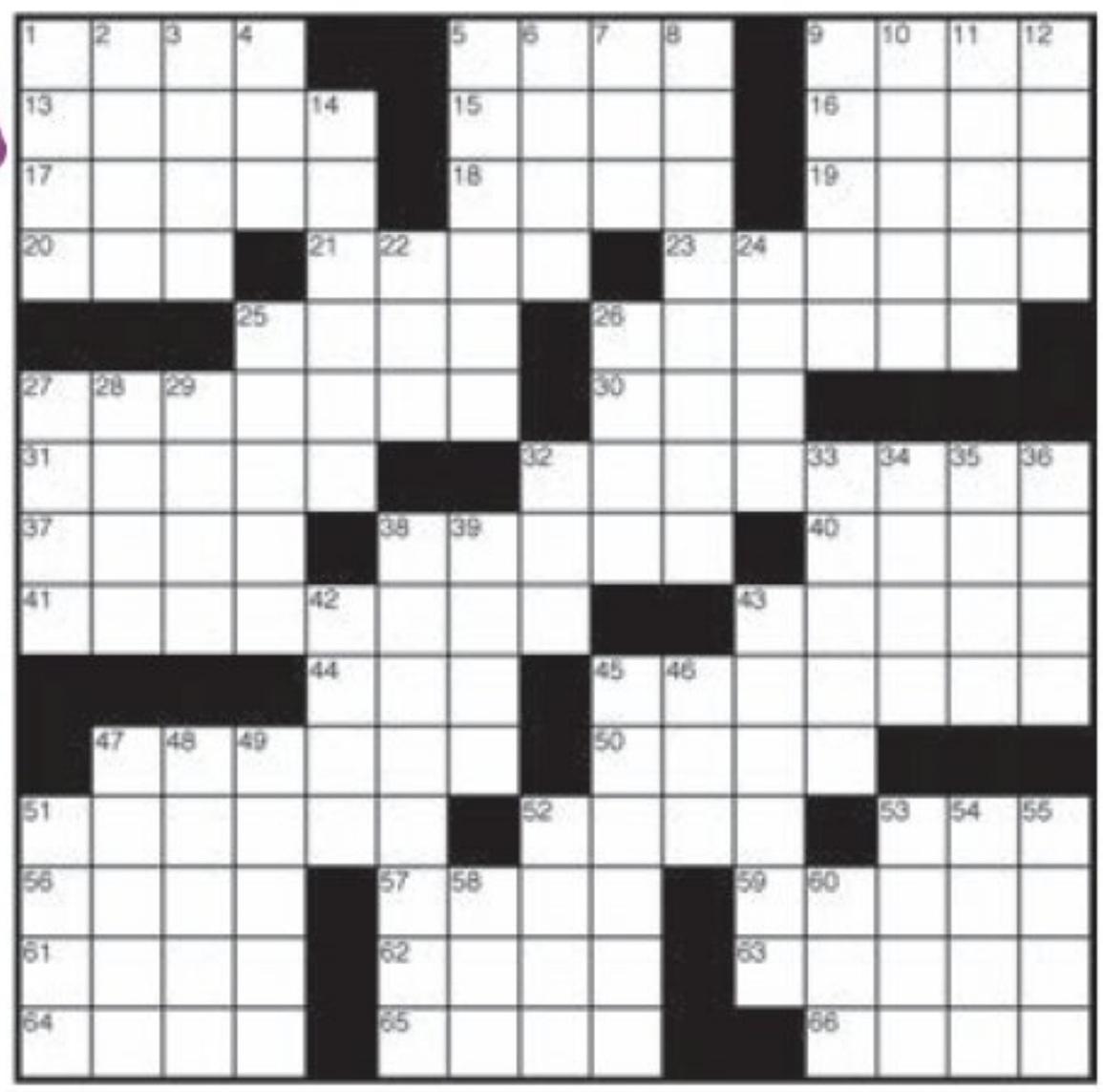
Crossword

Across
1 Speck of dust
5 Layered haircut
9 Hang ten
13 Piano-key wood
15 Amazon source
16 "Typee" sequel
17 Argot
18 Shower, maybe
19 — pas (blunder)
20 Pigskin prop
21 Incite
23 Loud and rude
25 New Mexico tribe
26 Chocolate dessert
27 Pilot's flap
30 NATO cousin
31 Main force
32 Hasty notes
37 Kind of eagle
38 Summer bulbs
40 Goes to court
41 Mathematical statement
43 New Orleans pro
44 Dow Jones fig.
45 Pinpoints
47 Walks slowly
50 Sir — Guinness
51 Flowering shrub
52 — — foot pole
53 Plaintive cry
56 Mammoth
57 Kelly or Whitman
59 Please greatly
61 "Cope Book" aunt
62 Pinnacle
63 Hombre's title
64 Protein source
65 Time period
66 Unit of force

Down
1 Soften
2 Drama award
3 Voice-mail prompt
4 MIT grad
5 Ankle injury
6 Lettuce buy
7 Uris hero
8 Big shoes
9 Davenports
10 Amherst coll.
11 Play reveille
12 Glamorous
14 Dairy product
22 She loved Lennon
24 Used-car worry
25 "The Prisoner of —"
26 Frame of mind
27 Xavier's ex
28 Mesopotamia, now
29 Doozy
32 Snowy mo.
33 Hayes or Asimov
34 Evening, to Pierre
35 It may be spliced
36 Mach 2 fliers
38 Freebie
39 Starfleet journals
42 Scheherazade offering
43 Behind the —
45 More recent
46 Yea, to a matador
47 Lapis lazuli color
48 Igneous rock, once
49 Cote murmur
51 Polite cough
52 Mme. Gluck of opera
53 Quite a few
54 Thames school
55 "— off to see the Wizard ..."
58 Excellent
60 Was in front

Yesterday's answer



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FANTASY BASEBALL: HOW TO DEAL WITH INJURIES

Baseball is mostly a non-contact sport that can be played with a beer belly and a dip in the lip. That doesn't stop guys from getting hurt at a rapid rate. Big names such as Anthony Rendon (knee) and Jose Fernandez (elbow) are obvious must-holds on fantasy benches until they return. But there are some lesser-known players currently sidelined who will eventually make an impact. The stash candidates:

Jaime Garcia can't return soon enough for the Cardinals. / GETTY IMAGES

Jake the snake

Brad Boxberger has been fine as the Rays' closer this year, but he's just keeping the seat warm. Jake McGee, he of the career 2.83 ERA and 10.9 K/9 rate is finally nearing a return from December elbow surgery. Expect McGee to finish up his rehab assignment sometime in the next couple weeks and quickly seize control of ninth-inning duties from there. With Joe Maddon gone, the closer's role should be handled more conventionally.

Southpaw in red

Jaime Garcia's return from a shoulder issue likely won't come for at least another month. But with Adam Wainwright (Achilles tendon) now done for the year, there should be a rotation spot waiting for him. Garcia has proven to be a mixed-league asset when healthy — something that hasn't truly been the case since 2012. He's still just 28 years old, though, and showed an improved strikeout-to-walk ratio during his 43 2/3 innings last year. Deep-league owners should be monitoring Garcia's rehab closely.

Park it out back

We haven't seen Jarrod Parker since the 2013 playoffs as his strained forearm ended turned into Tommy John surgery. These days, that's certainly not a negative. Expect Parker to come back strong and although his meager strikeout rate caps upside, we should go out of our way to target pitchers who play in cavernous Oakland. He's begun his rehab assignment and should be making starts in the bigs by the end of May.

FANTASY SPORTS
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Polk-a-boo

Former Eagle signs with Houston

Chris Polk would have been the fourth running back on the Eagles in 2015, so it comes as no surprise he wanted to move on. He will do so, as a member of the Texans. He will compete for the backup role behind Arian Foster. He scored three touchdowns for the Birds in 2014.

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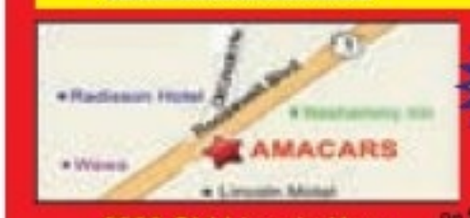

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2015 NFL Mock Draft | by Tony Williams

No. 1

Bucs (2-14)

Jameis Winston, QB, FSU — He's essentially been the top pick since he declared. Lovie Smith and his staff have done their vetting, and it seems clear he's their man.

No. 2

Titans (2-14)

Leonard Williams, DE, USC — Mariota could be selected here, but no one knows by whom. Here's saying the Titans stand pat, coaches up Zach Mettenberger and takes the draft's best prospect.

No. 3

Jaguars (3-13)

Dante Fowler, LB, Florida — This may be the second-most obvious pick. The Jags need an outside rusher for Gus Bradley's scheme, and Fowler just may be the premiere rusher in the draft.

No. 4

Raiders (3-13)

Kevin White, WR, West Virginia — Smart money says GM Reggie McKenzie does it the "Raider way" and selects the bigger, stronger, and faster guy. No disrespect to Amari Cooper, but it's White.

No. 5

Redskins (4-12)

Vic Beasley, LB, Clemson — The most explosive of all the linebacker prospects, Beasley has bulked up from 225 pounds to 246. He certainly looks the part of a fearsome pass-rusher.

No. 6

Jets (4-12)

Amari Cooper, WR, Alabama — It'll be hard for Mike Maccagnan to pass on the former 'Bama star, even though in all honesty, they don't really need a wideout with Brandon Marshall.

No. 7

Bears (5-11)

Marcus Mariota, QB, Oregon— The Bears new coaching staff isn't married to Jay Cutler, and though they have defensive needs, Mariota's the guy. If someone doesn't trade up to snatch him first.

No. 8

Falcons (6-10)

Alvin "Bud" Dupree, LB, Kentucky — Dupree is a versatile pass rusher and would be a good fit for Dan Quinn's attacking defense. Missouri linebacker Shane Ray could've gone here.

No. 9

Giants (6-10)

Danny Shelton, DT, Washington — The Giants have needs along both lines. Shelton would be an instant upgrade, with only Johnathan Hankins as the lone interior threat.

No. 10

Rams (6-10)

Brandon Scherff, OT, Iowa — The Rams have a need for an anchor on the offensive line to help ease Nick Foles' transition.

No. 11

Vikings (7-9)

DeVante Parker, WR, Louisville — Teddy Bridgewater made steady progress last season and Parker, the third of the top three receivers on the board, could kick Norv Turner's offense into full gear.

No. 12

Browns (7-9)

Nelson Agholor, WR, USC — The Browns seem doomed no matter what, but Agholor has sure hands and can beat you deep. Cleveland could also be active in the trade department. Watch out.

No. 13

Saints (7-9)

La'el Collins, G, LSU — He'd be a great replacement in New Orleans for Ben Grubbs, who was traded to Kansas City. He has a mean streak and the potential to play right tackle or at either guard.

No. 14

Dolphins (8-8)

Trae Waynes, CB, Michigan State — There's a need at corner for a Dolphins defense that is loaded in the pass-rushing department. Waynes is the best CB in the draft.

No. 15

49ers (8-8)

Randy Gregory, LB, Nebraska — He only fell this far due to off-field concerns about a failed marijuana test at the combine.

No. 16

Texans (9-7)

Breshad Perriman, WR, UCF — He's the most polarizing of all the wideouts in the draft, due to his intoxicating speed (4.24 at his pro day) and his penchant to drop some passes.

No. 17

Chargers (9-7)

Todd Gurley, RB, Georgia — No way he slips past the running back-needy Chargers – especially now that his ACL is repaired and he's on schedule to be ready for Week 1.

No. 18

Chiefs (9-7)

Malcom Brown, DT, Texas — Pair him with the immovable yet nimble Dontari Poe, and the Chiefs will field a terrifying defense up the middle to go along with their awesome linebacker unit.

No. 19

Browns (7-9)

Arik Armstead, DT, Oregon — He can dominate against the run, but also has enough ability to harass the passer. Think Chris Canty as a comparison.

No. 20

Eagles (10-6)

Landon Collins, SS, Alabama — He's the best safety in the draft and is a need for the Eagles. He's a prize at No. 20 if they don't try and move up.

Quick picks

- 21. Bengals - D.J. Humphries
- 22. Steelers - Marcus Peters
- 23. Lions - Eddie Goldman
- 24. Cards - Melvin Gordon
- 25. Panthers - Ereck Flowers
- 26. Ravens - Green-Beckham
- 27. Cowboys - K. Johnson
- 28. Broncos - Cam Erving
- 29. Colts - TJ Clemmings
- 30. Packers - S. Anthony
- 31. Saints - Phillip Dorsett
- 32. Patriots - Laken Tomlinson

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WHY COMPROMISE?

Eagles 2015 NFL draft guide

NFL. Which need will the Eagles address first when the draft kicks off Thursday at 8 p.m. on ESPN?

Will the Eagles have the chance to snag one of the draft's best defensive backs, like Landon Collins? / GETTY IMAGES

Here's a look at what the Eagles might do with their eight draft picks, (assuming no trades are made, which, with Chip Kelly, probably isn't very likely):

20 First Round
Alabama safety Landon Collins' name is showing up often at this spot. But the closer we get to the draft the less likely Collins seems to be a scheme fit for a team that increasingly talks about ranking players team-specifically. If a defensive back is the pick, it could be all-world combine performer Byron Jones of UConn, Wake Forest's Kevin Johnson, or LSU's Jalen Collins, all cornerbacks, though Jones has experience at safety. At wide receiver, Central Florida's Breshad Perriman, Arizona State's Jaelen Strong, USC's Nelson Agholor and Miami's Philip Dorsett are the players the Eagles have met with who would merit consideration in the first. If Louisville's Devante Parker starts to slide he could be a target here as well. The Eagles' player visits could be interpreted to infer that they'll be looking offensive line in the early rounds. While the list of players that visited is full of Day 2 and Day 3 projections at wide receiver, and defensive back, it's slimmer in mid-to-late round offensive line talent. If that's the case, another LSU Collins, offensive tackle La'el, could be the first-round pick.

52 Second Round
This round should be dictated by what happens above. If the Eagles get a defensive back in the first, they can look receiver here, and vice versa. If they still need to help the offensive line, Oregon tackle Jake Fisher might still be on the board and fits the athletic mold the Eagles have established up front. Penn State tackle Donovan Smith is an ascending player at the moment who the Eagles may have to take here if they want him. At receiver, Agholor may still be available, or Ohio State's Devin Smith. One of the talented receivers will probably be falling, but if they'll fit what the Eagles want is anyone's guess. Defensively, more options at safety start to open up; the Eagles have paid a lot of attention to Utah's Eric Rowe. UCLA quarterback Brett Hundley is a wild card. If the Eagles like what they saw in Hundley and are looking for a QB, he could come into play in any of the first three rounds.

84 Third Round
This could be a great spot to nab Georgia wide receiver Chris Conley. Kansas State's Tyler Lockett is another receiver to look at. Donovan Smith could still be on the board here, as could Rowe or Arizona State safety Damarious Randall. Hobart guard Ali Marpet performed well at the combine and Senior Bowl, and this may be the spot to take him. His athleticism at the combine was right on par with Fisher's.

113 Fourth Round
Penn State safety Adrian Amos is a great scheme fit at a position of need for the Eagles. He has the cover skills they're looking for at the position. In a thin safety class, he may be rising above this round.

LUKE MILLER
@LukeFm7
sports@metro.us

The later rounds

Eagles have options in last three rounds

At this point, it's less about looking at where players are predicted to go and making sure you get guys you like.

Marshall corner Darryl Roberts could be a great find. Kansas State corner Randall Evans is another player the Eagles hosted. Utah tackle Jeremiah Poutasi and Oregon State edge rusher Obum Gwacham are other names to keep an eye on. And, for all the Oregon Duck fans out there, linebacker Tony Washington could go off the board here.

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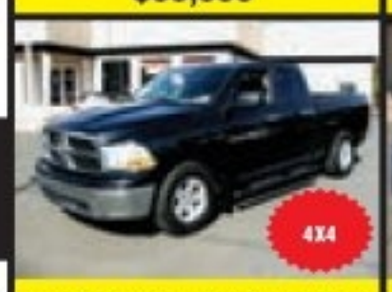

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